



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Intro. to the History of the Muslim People part I- Havatzalot - 38123

Last update 04-09-2024

HU Credits: 5

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Islamic & Middle East Stud.

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Or Amir

Coordinator Email: or.amir1@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Via email

Teaching Staff:

Ms. Ilihi Dadon,
Dr. Or Amir

Course/Module description:

In the course we will survey the historical developments that took place in the Middle East and elsewhere from the appearance of Islam to the rise of the Ottoman Empire and its conquest of most of the Arab world. In other words, we will deal with the years ca. 600-1500 CE, in the region stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to India and Central Asia. The course will deal with the political, religious, military, social, economic and cultural aspects of the history of the region. Learning will be based on a combination of lectures and independent reading by the students. Every two weeks there will be a "tutorial" aimed at strengthening the students' understanding of the material.

Course/Module aims:

The students will learn about the main events and developments that occurred during the first 9 centuries of Islamic history in the Middle East and elsewhere. This will naturally include an acquaintance with the basic names, terms and locations in Islamic history in this period. The students will also gain knowledge of the methodological problems related to Islamic historiography and the historical discipline at large.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

See above in course aims.

Attendance requirements(%):

80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is based on a combination of lectures and independent reading by the students. Every two weeks there will be a "tutorial" in which important matters related to the material will be discussed and questions will be answered.

Course/Module Content:

Order of lessons:

1. General overview
2. The situation in the region on the eve of the appearance of Islam
3. The Prophet Muhammad
4. The first caliphs (al-khulafa al-rashidun)
5. The rise of the Umayyads
6. The Umayyads at their height
7. The Abbasid revolution
8. The Abbasid state
9. Military slavery
10. The successor dynasties in the East
11. The successor dynasties in the West
12. The appearance of the Turkish tribes, and the establishment of the Seljuq Empire
13. The Crusades (1)
14. The Crusades (2)
15. The Mongols
16. The Ilkhanids
17. Iran and its neighboring countries after the Mongol
18. The Mamluk state (1)
19. The Mamluk state (2)
20. Spain and North Africa
21. State and Religion
22. Islamic Civilization
23. Conclusion

Required Reading:

In the course's moodle page.

Additional Reading Material:

Will be given during the course.

Grading Scheme:

Written / Oral / Practical Exam 75 %

Mid-terms exams 25 %

Additional information:

In the tutorial which will accompany the course, a quiz will be held which will constitute 25% of the final grade. More details and the exact date will be given at

the beginning of the course. No assignments will be given in the tutorial, but attendance is obligatory.